guidelines to some sections of Representation of People Act; and

(b) if so, what is Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. These suggestions have been made by the Election Commission as part of the proposals for Electoral Reform. All such proposals are under examination. Government propose to consult the political parties before taking a final decision.

Assembly elections

649. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the states where the Assembly elections are due during the current year and when it is due in each case;

(b) whether some of the State Governments have suggested certain dates for conducting the elections;

(c) if so, the details and reasons for not conducting the elections on the proposed dates;

(d) whether the dates of elections to the State Assemblies which are likely to be held before May this year have been announced; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The States where the assembly elections are due in this year are West Bengal, Haryana, Kerala, Nagaland and Jammu and Kashmir. In the case of West Bengal, Haryana, Kerala and Nagaland, the general elections are for the purpose of constituting a new Legislative Assembly on the expiry of the term of the existing Legislative Assembly, while in respect of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the State Legislative Assembly was dissolved in November, 1986 and the election should be held before March for completing the requisite financial business. The dates on which the term of the Legislative Assembly of the State are due to expire are as follows:—

1. West Bengal	....	13-6-1987
2. Haryana	....	23-6-1987
3. Kerala	....	23-6-1987
4. Nagaland	....	28-11-1987

(b) to (d) The Government of West Bengal had requested the Election Commission to hold the elections to the State Assembly on the 22nd February, 1987. A request was also received from the Government of Kerala that the elections to that State Assembly should be held in March, 1987. As the process of election, including the period of advance notice and the period which may have to be left after the date of poll for providing for unforseen conteingencies, takes about 45 days, the process of general elections should have been initiated in the case of West Bengal around the last week of April, 1987 and in the case of Haryana and Kerala, in the first week of May, 1987, and in the case of Nagaland, in the early part of October, 1987. The Commission was not in favour of holding the general election on the date suggested by the State Government of West Bengal, as it was felt that in view of the complaints received from time to time with respect to the revision of rolls, some time for receipt and disposal of appeals and for receipt of fresh applications for enrolment in the electoral rolls should be allowed. The Commission was also anxious to follow the convention of holding, as far as possible, general elections due around the same time according to a common programme. In the light of these considerations the Election Commission has announced the programme of general elections to Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal and Kerala Assemblies in such a manner as to have the date of poll on the 23rd March, 1987. By this process, the request of the Government of West Bengal was met

half way and the request of the Government of Kerala was accepted.

(e) The details of the programme of general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of West Bengal, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir as announced by the Election Commission, are as follows:—

(1)	Issue of Notification	16-2-1987
(2)	Last date of making nominations for the election	23-2-1987
(3)	Date of scrutiny of nominations	24-2-1987
(4)	Last date of withdrawal of candidature in the case of Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala	27-2-1987
	AND	
	in the case of West Bengal	26-2-1987
(5)	Date of poll	23-3-1987

Thermal Power plants in Kerla

650. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has demanded setting up of a thermal power plant in the State to meet the growing power shortage;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the State had promised to undertake a feasibility study before a final decision is taken thereon, and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The Kerala State Electricity Board some time back had requested the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to prepare a feasibility report for setting up a thermal power plant in the State. In October 1986 the Kerala Electricity Board changed the site. Work on preparation of the feasibility report of the project on the new site has commenced and some data required for the study has recently been furnished by the Kerala State Electricity Board.

Thermal units Installation in Dholpur

651. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal by Birlas to set up two thermal units of 200 megawatt each at Dholpur in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) So far the Government of Rajasthan has not forwarded any proposal to the Central Electricity Authority for setting up thermal generation capacity in the State by any company in the private sector.

Indigenous production of bulk drugs

652. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a programme for indigenous production of bulk drugs; and